

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jack H. McKinney on 12/22/08.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 28, line 1, change --24-- to read "23".

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Applicant's arguments (12/17/08 Response: page 12, line 11 - page 13, line 36) with respect to claims 1-10, 12-21, 23-32, 34, & 36 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1, 12, 23, & 36 and the objection to claims 5-10, 16-21, 27-32, & 34 have been withdrawn. The rejection of claims 2-3, 13-14, & 24-25 and the objection to claims 4, 15, & 26 have been obviated by their cancellation.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning the contents of this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen M. Brinich at 571-272-7430.

Any inquiry relating to the status of this application, entry of papers into this application, or other any inquiries of a general nature concerning application processing should be directed to the Tech Center 2600 Customer Service center at 571-272-2600 or to the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199 or 571-272-1000.

The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays 8:00-5:30, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to contact the examiner and the Customer Service Center are unsuccessful, supervisor David Moore can be contacted at 571-272-7437.

Faxes pertaining to this application should be directed to the Tech Center 2600 official fax number, which is 571-273-8300.

Hand-carried correspondence may be delivered to the Customer Service Window, located at the Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

/S. M. B./

Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/Thomas D Lee/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2625